

Factories in Kearney

1890

Work was progressing on the hinge factory.

A fence factory started production.

The paper mill blew down. Other portion of building blew down last summer just as construction was finished. No paper ever manufactured to this date.

Work started on rebuilding the paper mill.

Dec. 1, 1890 – parade to mark completion of Hect’s meat packing plant. To start production the next day. Butchering hogs.

Manufacturing

S M Sweeley manufactured suspenders in Kearney. It was a very successful business. “Although without practical experience he had some good hard-headed ideas, he put up a splendid article, and he has had two salesmen constantly on the road with wagons, selling directly to the retailers. Now he is preparing now for the manufacture of a new suspender, the “Dewey.” embracing some new ideas of Mr. Sweeley’s creation, which is destined without a doubt to be one of the most popular suspenders extant.”

“With the opening of the fall season the factory has opened another line in the manufacture of men’s leggings.... Three styles are now being manufactured. One to buckle on the side, another top fasten quickly with clasps, and still another with military lacing, with an improvement on the old way of lacing the side.... unqualified success.... has not been able to supply the demand....

Kearney Hub Oct. 6, 1899

Industrial Park

[That section between Kearney, now 17th Ave., and West Kearney, 30th Ave., became something of an industrial park during the “Boom Period” with several businesses building there and using the tailrace for water power.]

Kearney Hub – 1889

Oatmeal Factory, Soap Factory planned

Kearney Hub – 1890

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